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# Informanté

## One more rhino horn thief arrested

Niël Terblanché

MEMBERS of the Blue Rhino Task Team arrested Viega Nghinaanye Shipahu as the sixth suspect in the matter where 34 rhino horns along with large amounts of cash in local and foreign currency were stolen from a safe in a house in Outjo at the beginning of August.

The arrest on 4 October follows the arrest of Herman Paulus Pendapala, Petrus Ipinge, Ludwig Ndinelago Nangolo and Putrus Shimuningeni late in September. Two other suspects Hofni Amakali and Elias Mutwikanwere arrested in earlier in September.



Pandapala and Ipinge have since been released on bail of N\$30 000 each.

Shimuningeni, a business man from the North, is accused of standing at the head of the syndicate that stole the 34 rhino horns and the large amount of cash from the safe in Outjo. His formal bail application in the Outjo Magistrate's Court at the beginning of last week was unsuccessful and he was remanded in custody with the rest of the suspects.

Shipahu's case was added to that of the other suspects and he is set to appear again along with the rest of the suspects on 14 October. The accused persons face charges of amongst others charges of housebreaking and theft as well as the possession of wildlife contraband. Besides the rhino horns, the gang also stole cash in United States Dollars, Euro, South African Rand and Namibian Dollars, jewellery, firearms and ammunition. The total value of stolen rhino horns, the cash

and other items were pegged at N\$100 million.

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